

Several subsequent visits both to the Offwell Woodland and Wildlife Trust site and to other likely sites around the immediate area proved negative for this species. This appears to be the first time the species has been seen in Devon.— ROY MCCORMICK, 36 Paradise Road, Teignmouth, Devon.

***Dorytomus salicinus* (Gyllenhal) (Col.:Curculionidae) in Dorset**

On 30 May 1990, I tapped a teneral example of a small *Dorytomus* species from a mature willow bush at the base of the land-slipped cliffs at Great Ebb, Eype's Mouth, Dorset (O. S. grid reference SY 4491). Subsequent examination indicated that the beetle was either *D. salicinus* (Gyll.) or *D. salicis* Walton. Distributional data made me suspect that it was probably *salicis* as *salicinus* is only securely known from central and northern England and Scotland. As I did not have access to any *salicinus* for comparison, I sent the specimen to Dr. M. G. Morris who kindly identified the beetle as that species.

This record extends the known range of *salicinus* considerably and makes the unconfirmed record for North Wilts cited in Morris (Morris, M. G., 2002. True Weevils (Part 1). *Handbk. Ident. Br. Insects* 5, part 17b. Royal Entomological Society/Field Studies Council) appear more credible.

I thank Dr. Morris for naming the beetle for me.— DAVID R. NASH, 3 Church Lane, Brantham, Suffolk CO11 1PU.

***Crambus uliginosellus* Zell. (Lep.: Pyralidae), a further larval foodplant and correction of an earlier misidentification**

In late May and early June 1999, and in late May 2000, at Colaton Raleigh Common, Devon (VC 3) I found larvae of *Crambus uliginosellus* in silken tubes amongst *Sphagnum capillifolium* and *Campylium stellatum* var. *stellatum*, feeding on an unidentified grass and two species of sedge, one of which I determined as *Carex flacca* (Heckford, 1999. *Entomologist's Gaz.* 50: 223-237; Heckford, 2000. *Entomologist's Gaz.* 51: 80-81). In captivity all the larvae ate what I had identified as *Carex flacca*. Prior to this, the larva was unknown in the British Isles.

On 23 May 2003, at the same locality, I found several larvae of this species (moths were reared to confirm identification), in silken tubes at the base of *Eriophorum angustifolium* growing amongst *Sphagnum* spp. Each plant had only one larva and the mouth of each tube was slightly below the surface of the *Sphagnum*, the remainder of the tube descending into it.

There were signs of feeding at the base of the *Eriophorum* and in captivity the larvae ate only parts of the stem and lower parts of the leaves of this plant.

As a result of revisiting this locality I had an opportunity to reconsider my identification of the sedge as *Carex flacca*. As a result of closer examination of the

plants growing where the larvae occurred I have now found that in fact they are the very similar *Carex panicea*.— R. J. HECKFORD, 67 Newnham Road, Plympton, Plymouth, Devon PL7 4AW.

New records of *Vanessa cardui* (L.) and *V. virginiensis* (Drury) (Lep.: Nymphalidae) from the island of Corvo

Corvo consists of one large extinct volcanic crater just over 700m in height and forms part of the Azores archipelago, which is situated almost in the middle of the North Atlantic Ocean, some 1500 km due west of Lisbon (Portugal).

Vanessa cardui is a well-known migrant and has been recorded from many of the islands in the Azores archipelago (Vieira, V., 1997. *Bol. Mus. Mun. Funchal*, **49**: 5-76). However, the sightings of several individuals on 13 and 14 August 2003 between 100 and 400m on the southern slopes of the crater would appear to be the first records for the island of Corvo.

Vanessa virginiensis is also a migrant but has in general been reported with far less frequency, due possibly to its resemblance to the former species, but more probably because it is a less frequent visitor to the eastern side of the Atlantic Ocean (Leestmans, R., 1975. *Linn. Belg.*, **VI** (4): 88-96). It was recorded for the first time from the Azores archipelago by Marc Meyer in July 1990 on the slopes of Barossa in the Serra de Agua de Pau, Sao Miguel between 850 and 900m (Meyer, M., 1991. *Linn. Belg.*, **XII** (3): 99-116). One further record, also from Sao Miguel, was that of a specimen seen by V. Sbordoni in August 1996 in the University garden at Ponta Delgada (Vieira, 1997. *op. cit.*). It is odd that the only two previous sightings of this species should be from the most easterly island in the archipelago, since their origins were probably from the USA. The sighting of this species on Corvo, which with its near neighbour Flores forms the western group of the Azores archipelago, was at 460m on the south western slope of the crater on 13 August 2003. Although the larval foodplant known to be used by this species on the Canary Islands, Jersey Cudweed *Gnaphalium luteoalbum* (Hall, D. and P. J. C. Russell, 2000. *Ent. Rec.*, **112**: 210) was seen growing in gravel between the cobblestones of the main road leading out of Vila Nova up to the crater, the plants were very small and trampled and it would seem very unlikely that this individual was of resident stock. However, the weather for at least the previous four days had been characterised by strong NW winds, so strong that it delayed landings on Corvo until the 13 August. Although the specimen did not appear markedly worn, it was considered that this individual had probably been carried on the wind from America.

The only other species of butterfly recorded during the two day visit to Corvo were: *Pieris brassicae azorensis* (Rebel), the endemic subspecies of the Large White confined to the Azores, was extremely common, with both ova and larvae on cabbages growing in the Vila Nova residents' gardens, and seen up to 600m around the crater rim. *Vanessa atalanta* (L.), two individuals were seen on 14 August,